

RECEIVED JAN 03 2023



Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

Pres. – Brendan Kearns

V. Pres. – Arin Shaver

Secretary – Dale Brier

January 11, 2023, 1:00 pm ET

Fort Harrison State Park Inn

Theodore Room

5830 N Post Rd

Indianapolis, IN 46216

Meeting Agenda

Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda

Review and Approval of November 9, 2022 Minutes

Comments from Visitors or Guests

DNR Finance Report (Dale Brier)

Committee Reports

✦ Amenities Fund

✦ 2023 Retreat

Old Business

- ✦ Previous funding requests
 - Earth Day Fort Wayne 2023

New Business

✦ 2023 Officer Election

✦ New Funding Requests

Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion

Next Meeting: March 1, 2023 at 1:00 pm.

If you anticipate needing a reasonable modification under the ADA to participate or have questions concerning access at the meeting locations, please contact Ric Edwards, DNR ADA/Safety Director, at REdwards@dnr.IN.gov or 317-232-4145.



Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission
Pres. – Brendan Kearns V. Pres. – Arin Shaver
Secretary – Dale Brier

November 9, 2022, 1:00 pm ET

Pantheon Theatre
428 Main Street
Vincennes, IN 47591

Meeting minutes

Attendance

Voting Members Present:

Adams County - Randy Lehman
Carroll County - Allen Hurst (Proxy)
Cass County - Arin Shaver
Fountain County - Tim Shumaker
Huntington County - Dave Hacker
Knox County - Rhonda Foster
Parke County - Phil Cox (Alt)
Posey County - Ralph Weinzapfel
Sullivan County - Ellen Donker
Vigo County - Brendan Kearns
Wabash County - Keith Poole (Alt)
Warren County - Steve Eberly (Alt)
Wells County - Doug Sundling
DNR - Dale Brier

Guests:

Carrie Parmenter - Posey Co Alt
Chris Pfaff
Donald Mathias - Hunting Co Alt
Jamie Dugan
Joe Yochum - Mayor of Vincennes
Kevin Meyer - Knox Co Alt
Rogier Donker
Terri Gorney Lehman

Counties not represented:

Allen County
Miami County
Tippecanoe County
Vermillion County

Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda

President Brendan Kearns called the meeting to order at 1:13pm ET. Kearns asked for guests to introduce themselves. Mayor Joe Yochum welcomed everyone to Vincennes and provided a brief history of the pantheon building and Vincennes. Rhonda Foster introduced Jamie Dugan, a grant writer who assists Vigo County Parks and Recreation. Dugan provided a summary of her company and some of the projects that were underway.

Allen Hurst announced the proxies. Allen County gave their vote to Keith Poole. Tippecanoe County gave their vote to Kearns. Vermillion County gave their vote to Phil Cox. Carroll County gave their proxy to Allen Hurst. Hurst noted that while he can be a proxy, the practice is discouraged.

Review and Approval of September 14, 2022 Minutes

Cox noted the time of adjournment needed correction. Kearns asked for a motion to approve

the minutes with the correction. Tim Shumaker motioned to approve the minutes and Randy Lehman seconded. The motion passed.

Comments from Guests and Visitors

Kearns introduced friend and CEO of Knox County Economic Development Corporation, Chris Pfaff. Pfaff thanked the commission for coming to Vincennes and expressed elation in being able to sit in and listen to the commission's discussions and updates.

DNR Finance Report

Brier presented the DNR finance report (attached.) Fiscal year 2023 had \$131,000 in revenue which was more than previous years in November. The fund had over \$691,000 in total. Brier had reached out to the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) and they were fine with the increased funds for the upcoming grant round. Dave Hacker motioned to accept the report and Arin Shaver seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Art Fund

Dave Hacker presented the 'Art fund' sub-committee recommendations. The fund had around \$11,000 that resides in a checking account. \$5,000 would be made available for sponsorships helping fund projects along the Wabash River. Hacker passed around the proposed sponsorship request form noting these monies would fund projects that are not eligible under current WHRCF sponsorships or the upcoming grant round. Project locations must be on properties adjacent the river. \$1,000 would be the max per project sponsorship. Remaining monies would be invested into an investment account noting a 15-month CD at the bank where the funds reside. Hacker recommended investing \$5,000 and leaving \$1,000 available for memorials and miscellaneous expenses.

Brier recommended the subcommittee writeup a supporting document outlining specifics including what were eligible projects for the fund and a procedure for voting on the projects. Hacker agreed.

Cox asked why it was called the 'Art fund' because the sponsorships were not for art. Hurst replied the name was derived from the funds source. He added that the name was tentative, and a better option is welcomed. Hacker recommended 'Amenities Fund.'

Carrie Parmenter noted the sponsorship form was very similar to the event sponsorship form which may cause some confusion. Brier noted these forms are not available online and may only be obtained from WRHCC members who could explain the differences to applicants.

Donker asked what the timeline for the sponsorship would be. There was no definitive answer until a supporting document is created and approved by the commission. Hacker recommended following the standard sponsorship policy of having a presentation at one meeting and voting on sponsorship at the following meeting. The commission

agreed with the direction of the recommendations and would vote on it when the sub-committee presented again with a supporting document and specifics on the investment account.

Nominating

Rhonda Foster asked if the current WRHCC executive team would like to retain their positions for 2023. Kearns said he would be honored to remain as president but expressed concern that he may be replaced on the commission. Hurst noted appointments are for two years and the next appointments would be in 2024, replacements mid-term were rare. Shaver was fine remaining vice president.

Old Business

WRHCC Retreat

Hurst reminded the commission that retreats had typically been held in March on even numbered years. Due to COVID there was no retreat in 2022. A comment from a May meeting pontificated having the retreat on January 2023 or March 2023.

Poole recommended having the retreat in March 2023 and the commission agreed.

Shaver was volunteered to lead the retreat committee coming up with an agenda. Shaver volunteered Hacker to assist. Brier offered to assist. Hurst would organize the grant presentations.

Brier noted that State Parks would have their annual Leadership Conference on March 7-9, conflicting with the normally scheduled March meeting. The commission agreed to have the meeting one-week earlier Feb 28 – Mar 1.

Previous funding requests

LC Nature Park Trillium Event

Kearns asked if the proximity of the event excluded sponsorship eligibility because it is not on or next to the Wabash River. Hacker replied that it was on a major tributary, and direct proximity is not a requirement for WRHCF sponsorships. Hacker motioned to sponsor the event for the requested \$1,000. Lehman seconded and the motion passed.

New Business

New Funding Requests

Fort Wayne Earth Day Event

Hurst read the project description to the commission. 2023 will be the twelfth year that the Little River Wetlands Project will host of Earth Day Fort Wayne. The event will be held on April 23 at the Eagle Marsh Preserve.

The event includes a series of guest speakers, music, 10-15 hands-on education stations, food trucks, 25-30 partner tables and vendors, free native plant

giveaways, hikes led by Indiana master naturalists, a life-size bald eagle's nest photo opportunity, and more.

Hacker noted that former Allen County representative Ron Zartman use to present this event to the commission yearly and it was always funded.

2023 Meeting Locations

The commission discussed meeting locations for 2023 and the tentative locations were:

January – Indianapolis at Fort Harrison State Park

March – Turkey Run State Park

May – Sullivan County

July – Cass County

September – Huntington County

November – Gibson County

Final Comments by Commission members, alternates, and guests

John Gettinger noted how happy he was with the commission and their ongoing works. He and Donker commented on Waapaahsiki Siipiiwi Mound Historical Park that would be apart of the May meeting.

Kearns appreciated the river related articles sent to Hurst that he forwards to the commission.

Adjournment

Kearns asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Eberly so moved and Foster seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:18pm ET.

Next Meeting: January 11 | 1:00pm ET | Indianapolis, Fort Harrison State Park

48686 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund

FY23 as of 10/31/2022

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
431401	AD - Oil and Gas royalty along		\$ 131,491.00
510101	Payroll Salaries & Wages	\$ 2,770.57	
516002	FICA Regular	\$ 167.24	
516005	Payroll Medicare	\$ 39.12	
517003	Payroll Perf St Pd Em CONTR	\$ 83.12	
517005	Payroll PERF State Share	\$ 310.31	
518161	Health Insurance	\$ 306.14	
518606	Payroll Life Insurance	\$ 1.31	
518796	Payroll Anthem Dental Trad	\$ 16.05	
518800	Anthem Vision	\$ 2.36	
518901	Payroll Employee Assistance	\$ 0.94	
519006	Payroll Long Term Disability	\$ 27.64	
519503	Payroll Def Comp - StateMatch	\$ 19.70	
519722	HSA Health Savings Acct 2	\$ 25.82	
571010	Grants - Cities	\$ -	
571100	Grants - Counties	\$ -	
595110	InState Travel - Mileage	\$ 101.92	
595180	InState Travel - Board Member	\$ 2,339.88	
599036	AdmOp-PostageMeter/Potage	\$ 29.22	
599116	AdmOp-Event Sponsor	\$ 8,000.00	

DNR payroll	\$ 3,770.32
Grants	\$ -
Travel Costs	\$ 2,441.80
Operating	\$ 29.22
Sponsorships	\$ 8,000.00
Total	\$ 14,241.34

Active Fund Balance:		
	as of 7/1/2022	\$ 159,128.00
FY23 Expenses		\$ 14,241.34
FY23 as of 10/31/2022		\$ 144,886.66

Active Fund Balance	\$ 144,886.66	
Legal Fund Reserve	\$ 476,066.00	
***** Total WHRCF Funds	\$ 620,952.66	*****